Secdt. H.—37—190,000—31-5-49.

Education + Public Health (1951 49) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 1779 P.H

Dated 14-5-49

[Despatch Abstract.]

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTION : SALARIES OF SCAVENGERS AND SWEEPERS IN MUNICIPALITIES : PAPERS : RECORDED.

Extracts from the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly on the 23rd July 1948.

Salaries of scavengers and sweepers in municipalities.

60. Question: SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon.the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state -

(a) whether there is any maximum limit fixed for the salaries of scavengers and sweepers in municipalities and panchayats;

(b) if so, what the limit is; and

(c) whether there is any minimum fixed; and if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI A.B. SHETTY: "(a) and (b): No maximum limit has been fixed in respect of salaries of scavengers and sweepers in municipalities and panchayats. They are paid from contingencies according to market rates.

(c) No minimum rate of pay has been fixed. The question was considered. Different rates of minimum were suggested for different classes of menials. Consequently it was found difficult to prescribe a uniform rate of minimum pay for the ~~menials~~ menials."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: "In view of the fact that in several municipalities the pay of scavengers ranges from Rs.5 to Rs.15 and in view of the fact that the whole arrangement is governed by the law of supply and demand, which causes great hardships and injury to the scavengers, may I know whether the Government has any idea of fixing a safe, healthy and feasible minimum salary for the scavengers throughout the Province?

THE HON. SRI A.B. SHETTY: "I have already said, Sir, that it is not possible to fix the minimum rates of pay for these various classes of menials."

SRI P. KAKKAN: "May I know, Sir, whether the Hon.Minister for Public Health has taken any steps to make the scavenger's appointment ~~as~~ a permanent one?"

THE HON. SRI A.B. SHETTY: "No, Sir."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI: "In view of the fact that scavenging is an honoured profession according to the Gandhian philosophy of service to humanity and also on account of the fact that Mahatma Gandhi had gone on fast for the elevation of these depressed classes, may I know whether the Government will enhance the salary of the scavengers in this Province."

THE HON. SRI A.B. SHETTY: "Sir, the local bodies are at liberty to fix the pay of the scavengers according to the necessity and circumstances in the various service areas subject to the sanction of the Director of Public Health. I may also inform the hon.Member that an increase of 25 per cent in their basic pay was allowed from August 1946 according to the recommendation of the Cabinet Salaries Sub Committee and recently their dearness allowance has also been increased from Rs. 16 to Rs.18."

SRI D.V. RAMASWAMI: "Just as the dearness allowance of these people has been made uniform in all municipalities and panchayats, may I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of making the scale of pay of the scavengers uniform throughout the Province.?"

THE HON. SRI A.B. SHETTY: "There is no necessity to have a uniform scale of pay for the scavengers, Sir. I have already said that they are paid according to the market rate prevailing in each area.

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI: "May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any scheme under consideration by which scavengers and sweepers in municipalities can be properly housed?".

THE HON. SRI. AB.SHETTY: "Municipalities and local bodies have been advised to provide quarters for these people wherever possible, Sir."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI: "Will the Hon. Minister concede the urgent desirability of giving them sick leave and casual leave?"

THE HON. SRI. A.B. SHETTY: "The hon.Member may put a separate question, Sir."

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

A printed copy of the proceedings is at pp. 11-12 c.f. No action is necessary on the supplementary questions in the proceedings. The papers in this case may be

G.O. (Ms) No. 1779 P.H. dated the 14th May 1949

R e c o r d e d.

Abstract.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTION - Salaries of scavengers and sweepers i in Municipalities - Papers - Recorded.

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28/8.